

Maine Lobster Boat Racing Newsletter

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2019

PREVIEW

Newsletter #1

Boothbay and Rockland this Weekend!



I hope you are ready because tomorrow is the first race of the 2019 season.

Back at the Maine Fisherman's Forum at the Samoset Resort in Rockport the end of February we held a very brief (maybe four minutes) meeting going over the changes and schedule for the upcoming season. All changes are made at the annual meeting in October at Robinson's Wharf on Southport Island. The only rule change was in Gasoline Class B, which had its upper limit changed from 375 to 383 so the class now will read: V8, up to 383 cid, 24 feet and over. There were no class changes.

Sponsors this year are Elite Airways of Portland; Mack Boring (Scania) and New Hampshire Motor Speedway. Elite Airways will again give away a pair of tickets to where ever they fly to one of the racers at every race. New this year is New Hampshire Motor Speedway from Loudon, NH, which will be giving away

three pairs of tickets for the first five races (Boothbay, Rockland, Bass Harbor, Moosabec and Stonington). Many of the people who compete in the lobster boat races or follow them also follow NASCAR. They found this an excellent tie. There will also be a year-end prize given at the awards banquet in October to the top boat of the year sponsored by New Hampshire Motor Speedway.

Over the winter and into the spring there have been a number of rumours floating around and many of these have melted away with the snow. Looking at the Gasoline Classes we wonder if Mike Dasset of Belfast will be bring out his new Holland 32 SAVING GRACE. A new Holland 32 is being finished off for Randy Durkee of Islesboro. Now not sure whether he will continue racing BLACK DIAMOND in the gas class or the new boat in the diesel classes. Shawn Alley's LITTLE GIRL is ready after having her bottom straightened and



refastened as well as her engine gone over. He will likely be racing Bruce Engert's THUNDERBOLT in Class D. We all know that Steve Johnson has been making sure his engine is running right and one can bet he will be in Boothbay with BUD & DAWN to run in Class E. This year he will have competition from Jeremy Beal's MARIA'S NIGHTMARE, which is powered with 2,500-hp engine. He is a little nervous how she is going to handle with this amount of power so he said he was going to be careful the first couple of races.

Last year there were some great races in the Diesel Classes. In Class C we wonder if we will see Roy Fagonde's LAST DESIGN; Steve Osgood's VENOM or Daniel Eaton's WHITE LIGHTNING? Will Ed Torosian show up with MS. ROSE this year in Class F? He was the dominate boat in this class for years and I would almost bet the farm that he wants that title this year. In Class G does anyone have something for Dana Beal's RIGHT STUFF? Could Steve Carver's ANOTHER DIRLS get a little more out of that engine? Class H was dominated by Dean Beal's MISS NORMA and she is one her way to Boothbay for the races tomorrow. Does anyone have something for him? Will someone challenge Chris Smith's MISTY as he was the only one to qualify for Class I. Heather Thompson's

GOLD DIGGER will be at Boothbay defending her title on Class J. Will Nick Wiberg and MISS KATIE (x-UNCLE'S UFO) be up for the challenge? Ed Shirley's MISS KARLEE was sold last fall and the boat went to a fisherman in Yarmouth, but not with the engine. Ed purchased the Holland 32 which was for sale on Cliff Island, but not sure what diesel class she will be racing in. Tom Clemon's MOTIVATION is hoping to be at Boothbay and defend his title in Class L. The top racer last year was Cameron Crawford's WILD WILD WEST, but yesterday I was told that she will probably not be ready until the Bass Harbor races.

Where the real racing might be this year is for the top racer for the year, which will be determined by those who compete in the Fastest Lobster Boat race. We have a number of boats in the low to mid-50s (BUD & DAWN, LITTLE GIRL, MOTIVATION and THUNDERBOLT). WILD WILD WEST could be the fastest, but that all depends on MARIA'S NIGHTMARE and what she gets for speed and whether she holds together for the season. With all the new boats and those repowered this should be another great year!

MEMBERSHIPS: If you are interested in being a member of MLBRA just forward a check for \$50 to: MLBRA, P. O. Box 710, Winterport, Maine 04496.

WE WANT YOU TO JOIN US AT BOOTHBAY AND ROCKLAND THIS WEEKEND

BOOTHBAY HARBOR LOBSTER BOAT RACES

Saturday, 15 June

Sign ups: 0800 - 0900 hrs.

Start: 1000 hrs.

ROCKLAND LOBSTER BOAT RACES

Sunday, 16 June

Sign up: 0800 - 0900 hrs.

Start: 1000 hrs.

NEXT WEEKEND

BASS HARBOR LOBSTER BOAT RACES

Sunday, 23 June

Sign up: 0800 - 0900 hrs.

Start: 1000 hrs.

DON'T MISS NEW ENGLAND'S BIGGEST PARTY!

JULY 19-21

NASCAR



FUN FOR THE WHOLE FAMILY!



ADULT TICKETS START AT \$35
KIDS WEEKEND TICKETS JUST \$10
AGES 12 & UNDER - FRIDAY & SATURDAY FREE - SUNDAY \$10



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